

The Washington Times

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FRANK A. MUNSEY

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28, 1905.

Rich Paris--Poor Washington

France.....30,000,000 people
America.....30,000,000 people
For the adornment of
Paris up to 1945.....\$236,200,000
For the adornment of
Washington up to 1945.....000,000,000

In these terse figures the American Institute of Architects reveals the security of Paris and the danger of Washington. The French have safeguarded the development of their capital by allotting more than \$236,000,000 to be spent in the course of the ensuing forty years on such units of city ornament as new avenues and new bridges. The Americans have safeguarded nothing by allotting nothing.

Architecture is rising these days to the position of public leadership. It should have held in America from the organization of the first government. With this rise American architects are assuming unostentatiously the directorship of public adornment. It may be, then, that the showing of these figures in a publication designed especially for architects shall prove the best means of advancing the American Capital.

But the American way is to appeal to the citizen. And of all citizens who should be interested in this subject those of the District are the first. Yet:

How many Washingtonians have really a definite idea of the L'Enfant plan of the American Capital?

How many Washingtonians really understand the Park Commission plans for the fulfillment of the L'Enfant design?

How many Washingtonians have taken a single step to impress their interest in these plans upon their fellow-citizens, the members of Congress?

The most personal selfishness and the most patriotic pride both urge the people of the District--you who read these columns and we who fill them--to uphold the future of Washington with might and main. Are we doing it? Not by a whole lot. If we were every member of both houses of Congress would feel the force of this contrast the American Institute of Architects has set forth.

A Big Job.

The greatest opportunity for the material development of the country that has come to President Roosevelt's Administration lies in the Panama canal. Like every other great opportunity it is also a great responsibility. The international and diplomatic difficulties that for half a century surrounded the enterprise have been settled by Mr. Roosevelt's Administration. It now faces the organization, administration, sanitation, and actual physical construction of the canal, a task comparable to the building of the pyramids alone.

It is too early to judge the situation on the isthmus and in the ranks of the Canal Commission. It is certain that discord and strife have come in the earliest stages of the work. The commission is divided; its executive committee is divided; its chief engineer, selected on the ground of special fitness and qualification, has quit his employment; sanitary conditions in the canal zone are bad; the really great questions of policy are still to be settled.

When shall the necessary labor be secured to build the canal? Shall the materials be purchased in the markets of the world, at competitive prices, or at home at monopoly prices? Shall the canal be built with locks or at the sea-level?

Every one of these questions is as full of politics and potential controversy as an egg is of meat. Huge interests are involved in their decision. The tariff-protected interests will not submit, if they can help themselves, to having supplies bought abroad, for it means a calling of attention to the tariff taxation the American people pay on what they consume privately.

The great transportation interests of the Continent have a tremendous concern about the canal, which will be the most serious competition for them. These and many other forces will insist on making themselves felt; and among the clashing of interest it is little wonder that there has already developed serious embarrassment.

The President and the Secretary of War are determined that the canal shall be built as rapidly and as well as possible. They are possessed of the confidence of the country, and if the Canal Commission and official need another reorganization it should be made promptly and effectively.

The present situation is serious. There are plenty of enemies of the canal project to rejoice in every difficulty that besets it. Some of these are wolves in the sheep's clothing of pretended friendship. Until they are detected they will be the most dangerous of all the enemies of the enterprise. The President and his Secretary of War will learn who they are, and their capacity to do injury will be removed when they are known.

The canal is going to be built, and no incidental flurry or embarrassment is going to do more than delay the accomplishment and annoy the Administration and the public.

Two Appropriations.

Seventeen public playgrounds were thrown open to the children of Washington yesterday, and about 10,000 little ones flocked to the places where the open air, free space, and play apparatus were offered them.

Washington is to be congratulated on the event. Public playgrounds are one of the best things that can be provided by any city for the development and wholesome upgrowth of its rising generation. Last winter in spite of this fact--which is the proven experience of other cities--the friends of the movement feared that Congress would not allow an appropriation for playgrounds in Washington. But the appropriation came and helped toward the joy of these 10,000 children yesterday.

Now another, an appropriation by the congress of Washington's citizens, is needed. The playgrounds have been opened, and, by economical management, may be kept open until September 5. More money is needed, however, and the Associated Charities' committee on public playgrounds trusts to the parents of this city to contribute the sum required.

The Times takes the same position. Surely the trust is not ill-founded.

What will become of us when Roosevelt quits?

Some nations think the fruit is overripe in Morocco.

Two or three States have decided that the best way to execute murderers is to let them die of old age.

When 170 Christians were massacred by Armenians the other day, the European nations were too busy with land-grabbing to bother about life-losing.

A New York preacher has resigned his pulpit to go into the life insurance business, thus increasing his sphere of usefulness if he means to do real missionary work.

Lord Kitchener's claim that it will be necessary for England to fight Russia recalls the way he used to look for the easy light only.

When Carl Schurz said the United States ought to be the "gentleman among nations," Mr. Roosevelt supplemented it by deciding the gentleman must have no ladylike ways.

A contemporary sets up the claim that only female mosquitoes bite. New Jersey has all the girl kind cornered.

It is said Mayor Weaver's boyhood was characterized by his tendency to run away, which goes to show he knew he might need speed some day in Philadelphia.

Captain Kirkman has been put in a cell adjoining that of Banker Bigelow, as the authorities wanted to show they had no mercy on the captain.

Considering the way some of the Indians have been robbed of late, they may be only revolting in self-defense.

It now develops that the President knew what he was talking about when he said there would be a Judge McCormack.

Electroplaters claim that a nasal tone ought to be called "pinched." Anybody disagreeing with this please hold up his hands, receive a swift kick, and get out.

King Christian of Denmark is in an improved condition, which is more than can be said of Nicholas, William, Peter, and others.

The Panama Canal leads to a good job more promptly than it does to the Pacific ocean.

"Let nobody discuss my Presidential bonnet," says Secretary Shaw. Ah, Mr. Secretary, you have overestimated American loquacity.

A Montana man has been given fifty years in the penitentiary for holding up a train, this form of robbery being thought too clumsy to merit the light sentences offered to those who hold up banks.

"Japan's victories are those of civilization. Civilization is a big gun, lots of powder, and a mighty good aim."

John Barrett has been assigned to Colombia, where he will not even listen to Colombia's proposition to sell islands to the United States. Diplomats hate indiscretions now.

Real diamonds feel much colder to the tongue than paste ones. People will betray their wealth by showing frozen tongues.

Laying aside the Big Stick, we now have the Deep Probe.

In support of the claim that this is the day of small things, we call attention to how small the voice of conscience sounds these days.

Prof. Burke wouldn't be so jubilant over discovering that life can be obtained from radium and lead soup if he knew the price of radium in England and the cost of beef in America.

Since it's been found that Chinese exclusion means business depression, our view of the matter has become more businesslike.

When Commissioner Macfarland asked Washingtonians to emulate the Denver citizens in keeping the city clean, he forgot how few chances Washington people have to get in training by cleaning out a governor's chair every week.

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ROSY BRIDES LED TO HYMENS ALTAR

Marriage Celebrated at St. Patrick's Rectory.

CHURCH WEDDING IN NORFOLK

Miss Agnes Howell and Harry Haines United by the Nuptial Mass. Other Nuptials.

A quiet but pretty wedding was celebrated this morning at 9:30, in St. Patrick's rectory, when Dr. D. J. Stafford united in marriage Anna M., oldest daughter of Mrs. Nannie F. Polk, of this city, and J. Leland Boush, of Norfolk, Va.

The bride was attired in a handsome robe of hand-embroidered English net over white tulle, and wore a white lace hat delicately trimmed in blush roses and maidenhair fern. Her only ornament was a brooch of diamonds and pearls, a gift of the groom.

The best man was Junius Roane Wilcox, of Norfolk, Va., and the bride's attendant, little James Kenneth Polk, her nephew.

After the ceremony, at which only the immediate relatives and a few out-of-town guests were present, the bride and groom were entertained at a dainty wedding breakfast.

Among the presents received by the bride from friends here and abroad is a silver service over three hundred years old, an heirloom, presented to her by her mother.

Mr. and Mrs. Boush left the city on the noon train for an extended Northern trip, and will be back in Washington after September 15 at 121 College place, Norfolk, Va.

White-Tucker.

An interesting social event occurred at 7 o'clock last evening at St. Paul's Church in Norfolk, Va., in the marriage of Miss Jane Ellis Tucker to the Rev. Luke Matthew White.

The bride's father, the Rev. Beverly Dandridge Tucker, rector of the church, was the celebrant, and was assisted by the Right Rev. Alfred Magill Randolph, bishop of southeast Virginia, and by her brother, the Rev. Henry St. George Tucker, for six years missionary to Japan and now president of St. Paul's College, Tokyo.

Another brother, the Rev. Beverly Dandridge Tucker, Jr., who has just acquired the Cecil Rhodes scholarship, gave her away.

The bride's three sisters, Misses Eleanor Selden Tucker, Virginia Washington Tucker, and Maria Tucker, were her attendants. Those serving as ushers were Dr. A. W. Tucker and William H. Whittle, Jr., Norfolk; Lewis Carter Harrison, Richmond; Charles S. Brant, Lexington, Ky.; F. H. Abbott, Bellevue, Va.; and Christie Benet, South Carolina. G. C. Greenway was the groom's best man.

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